

MS. ALBURY: My name is Kathryn Albury. I thank you for listening to me and listening to all the people that are here and taking the extra time. In Sally Jewell's Order, No. 3338, which provides for this hearing, it begins with a statement of purpose. The Department of Interior is entrusted with overseeing federal land and resources for the benefit of current and future generations. This is a long-term thing that we're working on here. I hope that you're thinking about the future for my grandchildren and my grandchildren's grandchildren. The website for the DOI tells us that coal is the most plentiful fuel in the fossil family and it's been used for heating since the cavemen. In what is now the US southwest, the Hopi Tribes used coal in the 1300s for cooking, heating, and to bake pottery that they made from clay. The first commercial coal mine started operation in the 1740s in Virginia. So coal has been mined for less -- commercially mined for less than 300 years and all the easily mined coal has already been burned. Times are changing and coal mining needs to end. Last December, the United States, along with 194 other countries, agreed at the Paris Climate Conference to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting coal warming to well below two degrees centigrade Celsius by 2020. That's only four years from now. People, we are in a state of emergency and it's time that we begin to act that way. Continuing to lease parcels of federal land for burning coal is clearly inconsistent with our commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is not the way to handle an emergency. It's much more responsible to use our precious energy dollars to invest in sustainable sources of energy that do not emit greenhouse gases. These technologies are already well- developed. We can build sustainable energy as the current coal mines and other fossil fuel mines are being depleted and achieve a smooth transition to sustainable energy. Clearly, the end of coal mining will have a profound effect on the people working in the coal industry, these people who risk their health and their lives daily and their work. In his State of the Union address, President Obama said, "Rather than subsidize the past, we should invest in the future, especially in the communities that rely on fossil fuels." We, as a nation, must not abandon the workers in the coal industry who are already getting laid off and having difficulty finding new work. Retraining and perhaps relocation is needed for many workers and should be easily available to them. I implore the companies who employ these coal workers to immediately sequester the funds that are needed to ensure their

retirement and health benefits so that they will be available to them no matter what happens to the company. Thank you for your time.